

David Bryan/R7/USEPA/US
07/06/2012 03:30 PM

To bryan.david
cc
bcc Karl Brooks
Subject Daily Digest, 7/6/12

OPA Daily Digest for 7/6/12

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) – Phone inquiry – 7/6/12 – Requests a status update on the West Lake Landfill superfund site. Due: 7/10/12. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Rep. Todd Akin (Mo.) – Letter – 6/22/12: Questions about the Strecker Farms proposed development. Due: 7/9/12. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

KBIA Public Radio, Columbia, Mo. – Jacob Fenston – 6/12/12: Questions about EPA's enforcement history involving Doe Run Resources Corporation and the shutdown of the company's smelter in Herculaneum, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

IDNR Iowa Outdoors Magazine, Des Moines, Ia. – Mindy Kralicek – 6/22/12: Questions about the EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training application process. Contact: Belinda Young, 7463 (open)

Inside EPA – John Heltman – 6/27/12: Requested documents about EPA objections to wastewater permits in Iowa and Kansas. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (open)

St. Louis Post Dispatch – Jeremy Kohler – 6/26/12: Requesting information on the Carondelet Coke Site in Missouri. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

Environmental Stories:

Iowa City Press-Citizen - Our View: Hard to imagine kayaking over downtown dam - 7/5/12 - City officials seem to be hoping that, once people upstream are able to go down the river without obstruction, then they'll start to care more about keeping the river clean. As for updating the dam to a more recreation-friendly design, we're intrigued, but we'll reserve judgment until we see what new designs and estimated price tags get produced as part of the study.
<http://www.press-citizen.com/article/20120706/OPINION03/307060008/Hard-imagine-kayaking-over-downtown-dam>

The Daily Iowan - City officials to sign agreement with EPA for dam modification - 7/6/12 - The Iowa City City Council will consider a resolution Tuesday authorizing the city manager to sign a grant agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency to plan for the modification of the Burlington Street dam. <http://www.dailyiowan.com/2012/07/06/Metro/28966.html>

Renewable Energy - City of Clayton Continues Its Leadership in Sustainability - 7/5/12 - With the installation of the largest solar array canopy in Missouri at its Police Station, Clayton maintains leadership

in green initiatives and its status as the first EPA Green Power Community in Missouri.

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/brightergy1/news/article/2012/07/city-of-clayton-continues-its-leadership-in-sustainability>

Des Moines Register - MidAmerican says load close, but no record - 7/5/12 - MidAmerican Energy of Des Moines said electricity loads on its system have been close to the record 4,752 megawatts set on July 19 of last year. MidAmerican considers itself confident to have enough generating capacity to meet summer loads.

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2012/07/05/midamerican-says-load-close-but-no-record/>

St. Louis Chinese American - Grant Provides University City Technical Assistance - 7/5/12 - A local article by the St. Louis Chinese American News about our Smart Growth Technical Assistance in University City. <http://www.scanews.com/2012/06/s1140/114003/>

Reuters - US ethanol output falls to 10-mo low, drought darkens outlook - 7/5/12 - U.S. ethanol production dropped to its lowest level in 10 months last week as dwindling pre-harvest corn stocks crushed profit margins, while a deepening drought in the Midwest threatens to extend the pain into next year. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/05/usa-ethanol-idUSL2E8I573020120705>

Quad-City Times - Alliant to initiate appliance cycling this afternoon - 7/5/12 - Interstate Power and Light Co. (IPL), an Alliant Energy company, will cycle air conditioners for all participating Iowa customers from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the appliance cycling program.

http://qctimes.com/news/local/alliant-to-initiate-appliance-cycling-this-afternoon/article_6cb958ae-c6c9-11e1-a310-0019bb2963f4.html

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - St. Louis aldermen pass bill to cut board in half - 7/6/12 - City aldermen took one more step toward self-sacrifice today. The board approved a bill at this morning's meeting that could cut the number of city wards from 28 to 14. If signed by Mayor Francis Slay, the measure would be added to the ballot for the November general election.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/political-fix/st-louis-aldermen-pass-bill-to-cut-board-in-half/article_38470d5a-c79b-11e1-8282-0019bb30f31a.html

Christian Science Monitor - Commentary: Baseball proudly wears its green - 7/5/12 - When millions of television viewers tune in to the Major League Baseball (MLB) All-Star Game Tuesday night (July 10), they'll see something green at Kansas City's 40-year-old Kauffman Stadium besides its carefully manicured field: a glistening bank of 120 solar panels.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2012/0705/Baseball-proudly-wears-its-green>

NPR - Military's Green Energy Criticized By Congress (audio) - 7/6/12 - The military says it's dangerous to depend exclusively on fossil fuels, and has launched a program to develop alternative fuels for use by military vehicles. But some members of Congress don't think the military should be a laboratory for finding energy alternatives.

<http://www.npr.org/2012/07/05/156325905/militarys-green-energy-criticized-by-congress>

Mother Jones - Jet Li' Loves Coal Ash: A Case of Astroturfing? - 7/6/12 - Is the coal lobby forging petition signatures on a White House web site to stop EPA from regulating toxic coal ash? The EPA is currently considering a new rule that could affect how the waste is handled.

<http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2012/07/spam-or-astroturf-mysterious-case-coal-ash-petition>

Environmental Leader - EPA Maintains GHG Thresholds, Focus on Larger - 7/5/12 - PollutersThe EPA will maintain greenhouse gas thresholds that target the nation's largest emitters, which account for nearly 70 percent of pollution from stationary sources.

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2012/07/05/epa-maintains-ghg-thresholds-focus-on-larger-polluters/>

Greenwire - Enviro group touts farmers' support for Obama's Clean Water Act proposal - 7/5/12 - Environmentalists fired back today in their war with agribusiness over proposed changes to Clean Water Act rules. The group Environment America sent a letter signed by 187 farmers to President Obama today calling for the administration to move forward on stalled plans to provide federal protection to small streams and wetlands. <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2012/07/05/5>

Chemical & Engineering News - Sulfur Emissions Dropped As Utilities Idled Old Coal Plants - 7/6/12 - Sulfur dioxide emissions fell by 24% between 2008 and 2009 in the U.S., according to the Energy Information Administration (EIA). Now researchers think they know why: Spurred by a drop in natural gas prices, utilities shut down old coal plants that lacked pollution controls. <http://cen.acs.org/articles/90/web/2012/07/Sulfur-Emissions-Dropped-Utilities-Idled.html>

Indianz.com - Opinion: Stronger role is needed for federal regulation of fracking - 7/6/12 - America's energy future has been transformed by the production of natural gas made possible by hydraulic fracturing. The problem is that the fracturing process used to extract the gas can, if done improperly, pollute surface and drinking water and emit dangerous air pollution. <http://64.38.12.138/News/2012/006317.asp>

Yale Environment 360 - Helping U.S. Farmers Increase Production and Protect the Land - 7/5/12 - American agriculture is steeped in a chemical-intensive system that wastes money and pollutes the environment. But by making use of new technology and innovative approaches, farmers can boost production and profits — while at the same time improving soil quality, enhancing biodiversity, and protecting habitat. http://e360.yale.edu/feature/helping_us_farmers_increase_production_and_protect_the_land/2549/

Edmonton Journal - Disorganized control room to blame for Enbridge U.S. pipeline spill: records - 7/4/12 - A disorganized control room and bullying of inexperienced staff are allegedly to blame for a three-million litre oil spill in a Michigan River from a pipeline operated by Alberta-based Enbridge. <http://www.edmontonjournal.com/business/energy-resources/Disorganized%20control%20room%20blame%20Enbridge/6883907/story.html>

BNA - House Farm Bill Would Cut \$6 Billion From Conservation Programs Over 10 Years - 7/6/12 - Agriculture conservation programs face spending cuts of at least \$6 billion over the next 10 years under a draft version of the 2012 farm bill that the House Agriculture Committee released July 5. http://news.bna.com/delN/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=27270459&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d3k5x2t8&split=0

BNA - EPA Weighing New Guidance on Determining When to Exclude Exceptional Events Data - 7/6/12 - EPA is considering draft guidance that aims to improve the process for determining whether an exceptional event has affected air quality data, according to a Federal Register notice being published July 6. http://news.bna.com/delN/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=27270439&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d3k5h5v9&split=0

BNA - Energy Department to Seek Information On Readiness for Plug-In Vehicle Deployment - 7/6/12 - The Energy Department plans to assess the readiness of communities across the country to deploy plug-in electric vehicles, according to a notice published July 5. http://news.bna.com/delN/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=27270426&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d3k1u6e6&split=0

BNA - EPA Proposes More Tests to Support Tolerances of Herbicide Difenzoquat - 7/6/12 - EPA is proposing to require additional tests to support tolerances for residues of the herbicide difenzoquat. http://news.bna.com/delN/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=27270440&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d3k5m3c9&split=0

BNA - EPA Releases Updated Assessment On Termination of Organophosphate Use - 7/6/12 - EPA

has released an updated assessment of the impact on certain crops of phasing out azinphos-methyl (AZM), an organophosphate pesticide originally registered in 1959 for controlling insects.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=27270452&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d3k5u0x7&split=0

Inside EPA - EPA 'Exceptional Events' Guide Falls Short Of States' Bid For Rule Change - 7/5/12 -

EPA is resisting pressure from states to revise its rule determining when states can exempt emissions from "exceptional events" such as dust storms from counting toward compliance with federal air standards.

<http://insideepa.com/201207052403749/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-exceptional-events-guide-falls-short-of-states-bid-for-rule-change/menu-id-95.html>

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Inside EPA - EAB Decision Could Raise Bar For Permitting Fracking Wastewater Wells - 7/5/12 -

EPA's Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) has found that the agency's permit review of two wastewater disposal wells for a Pennsylvania-based hydraulic fracturing operation is inadequate to show that drinking water supplies would be protected.

<http://insideepa.com/201207052403680/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/eab-decision-could-raise-bar-for-permitting-fracking-wastewater-wells/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - State, Industry Fear EPA Engine Rule May Deter 'Clean' Power Investment - 7/5/12 -

Delaware and some power companies are raising concerns over EPA's proposed air rule for reciprocating internal combustion engines (RICE) that operate under demand response (DR) programs, saying it could increase air pollution from higher-emitting backup diesel engines and deter investments in "cleaner" power generation.

<http://insideepa.com/201207052403677/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/state-industry-fear-epa-engine-rule-may-deter-clean-power-investment/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Relaxes Deadline For States To Certify UST Operators Are Certified - 7/5/12 -

EPA has relaxed the requirements for states to prove they are meeting a statutory deadline for underground storage tank (UST) operators to be trained in safety procedures and other requirements, noting state concern over being able to meet the Aug. 8 deadline.

<http://insideepa.com/201207052403675/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-relaxes-deadline-for-states-to-certify-ust-operators-are-certified/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Automakers Fear EPA Weighing E15 As Standard Engine Certification Fuel - 7/5/12 -

Automakers fear EPA is weighing the use of higher ethanol blends of 15 percent (E15) or higher as certification fuel the agency uses for conducting engine performance and emissions tests despite a lack of E15 availability.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201207052403730/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/automakers-fear-epa-weighing-e15-as-standard-engine-certification-fuel/menu-id-202.html>

Inside EPA - GHG Ruling Boosts EPA Morale - 7/5/12 - EPA staff members say they have received a major morale boost following a federal appeals court ruling upholding all of the agency's greenhouse gas (GHG) rule with the decision seen as bolstering the confidence of EPA headquarters and regional staff in implementing the agency's climate policies.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201207052403678/Clean-Energy-Report-Blog/Blogging-Clean-Energy/ghg-ruling-boosts-epa-morale/menu-id-204.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/9/12 – Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant Follow up Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/10/12 – CFC Cabinet Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/10/12 – Meet and greet with Stacey Dey-Foy and Joe Carbonaro, EPA Office of Suspension and Debarment, Regional Office. Contact: Mark Hague, 7546

7/11/12 – Meet with the Shared Service Center, Regional Office. Contact: Luetta Flournoy, 7653

7/16-18/12 – Budget Forum, Washington D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/19/12 – Tribal Caucus/EPA Joint Session, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Wolfgang Brander, 7381

7/25-26/12 – Lead Task Force Meeting and Site Tour, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Cecilia Tapia, 7733 and Julia Cacho, 7071

7/27/12 - Lincoln University Water Boot Camp Certificate Ceremony, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Kris Lancaster, 7557 and Monica Espinosa, 7541

7/27/12 – Missouri Environmental Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contacts: Julia Cacho, 7071 and David Cozad, 7587

11/19/12 – 2012 Kansas Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference, Wichita, Kan. Contacts: Karen Flournoy, 7782 and Julia Cacho, 7071

RA/Immediate Office

7/13/12 - Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City Monthly Meeting, Kansas City, MO Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202

7/16-17/12 - Attend Budget Forum, Washington, DC. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

7/18/12 - Attend NTOC, Washington, DC. Contacts: Dana Peters, 7444 and Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

7/19/12 - Attend Spring EMC Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

8/13-17/12 - ORD Lead Region Transition Planning Meeting with Region 10, Corvallis, Ore. Contacts: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566 and Dana Peters, 7444

9/11- 12/12 - Attend Hypoxia Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202

9/13/12 - Attend National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa.
Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

***7/9-11/12** - Environmental Justice Meeting and OGC/ORC Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

***7/10-12/12** - OGC/ORC Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Dolph, 7281

ECO/EJ

***7/12/12** - Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Mini-Series, Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kan.
Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094

***8/9/12** - Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Mini-Series, Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kan.
Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094

8/18/12 - Back to School Event at Brush Creek Community Center, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Michael Minor, 7539

***9/13/12** - Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Mini-Series, Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kan.
Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094

***10/11/12** - Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Mini-Series, Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kan.
Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094

ENSV

7/9-11/12 – EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) Visit, Ft. Riley, Kan. Contact: Brenda Groskinsky, 7188

7/22-30/12 - ORD/U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) sampling event, Omaha, Neb. Contact: Brenda Groskinsky, 7188

7/31 - 8/2/12 – Meeting with the incoming Lead Region Coordinators and the National Program Directors, Washington, DC. Contact: Tony Petruska, 7637

PLMG

7/11/12 - Suspension and Debarment Division visit with Grants and Contracts staff, Regional Office.
Contact: Karen Sherrill, 7461

8/7-8/12 - Sustainable Communities Building Blocks workshop, Hays, Kan. Contact: David Doyle, 7667

RA/OPA

7/9/12 – Public Availability Meeting, Lexington FMGP #2 Site, Lexington, Mo. Contact: Belinda Young,

7463

7/17/12 - Public Meeting, Southwest Jefferson County Mining Superfund Site Proposed Plan, Jefferson County, Mo. Contact: Debbie Kring, 7725

7/19/12 - Public Availability Session for the Pools Prairie Superfund Site, Neosho, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

***7/26/12** – Public Availability Session for the Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Site in Norfolk, Neb. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

SUPR

7/18/12 - Project team meeting and USACE open house at the Former Nebraska Ordnance Site, Mead, Neb. Contact: Ken Rapplean, 7769

WWPD

***7/10/12** - Kansas Department of Health and Environment Use Attainability Analyses Meeting, Topeka, Kan. Contacts: Amy Shields, 7396 and John DeLashmit, 7821

***7/10-11/12** - Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Review, Topeka, Kan. Contacts: David Garrett, 7159 and Kurt Hildebrandt, 7413

7/11/12 - On-Site Grant Review, Lincoln, Neb. Contacts: Eliodora Chamberlain, 7945 and Karla Asberry, 7595

***7/15-20/12** - American Federation of Government Employees annual conference, Silver Springs, Md. Contact: Morris Holmes, 7421

***7/18-20/12** - Kansas Corporation Commission Program Review, Wichita, Kan. Contacts: David Garrett, 7159 and Kurt Hildebrandt, 7413

7/18-20/12 - 27th Annual Heartland Operators Conference presentation, Kearney, Neb. Contact: Robert Bryant, 7354